

Yampa River

Between Stagecoach Reservoir (River Mile 217) and Elkhead Creek (River Mile 151) in Colorado

- Who:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Fort Collins, Colorado
- What:** Northern pike. Young of the year and adult northern pike will be collected for isotopic (chemical) analyses of otolith (inner ear) tissues to determine points of origin.
- When:** May through September, 2005
- Why:** See attached questions and answers.
- Contact:** Colorado Division of Wildlife, Fort Collins, Colorado
Tom Nesler, 970-472-4384, tom.nesler@state.co.us
- Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program,
Denver, Colorado
Debbie Felker, 303-969-7322, ext. 227, debbie_felker@fws.gov
Pat Nelson, 303-969-7322, ext. 226, pat_nelson@fws.gov

Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Mark and release of northern pike and smallmouth bass
- Translocation of northern pike to Yampa State Wildlife Area ponds

**Between Catamount Reservoir (River Mile 207) and Hayden (River Mile 177)
in Colorado**

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Colorado Division of Wildlife, Fort Collins, Colorado

What: Northern pike. On one trip, northern pike will be marked with a white tag and released back into the river.

Smallmouth bass. On one trip, smallmouth bass will be marked with a white tag and released back into the river.

When: April, 2005

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Dave Irving, 435-789-4078, ext. 17, dave_irving@fws.gov

Colorado Division of Wildlife, Fort Collins, Colorado
Tom Nesler, 970-472-4384, tom.nesler@state.co.us

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

-Northern pike study to determine points of origin

Between Hayden (River Mile 177) and Craig (River Mile 140) in Colorado

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

What: Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with a red tag and released back into the river. On seven subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to Yampa State Wildlife Area ponds, Loudy-Simpson pond, or other approved waters within Colorado, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Smallmouth bass. On all eight trips, smallmouth bass will be marked with a red tag and released back into the river.

When: April through June, 2005

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Dave Irving, 435-789-4078, ext. 17, dave_irving@fws.gov

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Northern pike study to determine origin.

Between Craig, Colorado (River Mile 140) and Dinosaur National Monument (River Mile 46) in Colorado

Who: Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado

What: Northern pike. On the first trip, northern pike will be marked with a yellow tag and released back into the river. On three subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to Loudy-Simpson pond, Rio Blanco Reservoir, or other approved waters within Colorado, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public. Forty northern pike will be set aside for CDOW's bioenergetics study.

When: April through July, 2005

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado
Lori Martin, 970-255-6126, lori.martin@state.co.us
Bill Elmblad, 970-255-6187, bill.elmblad@state.co.us

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Warmwater fish bioenergetics study to determine age, growth, and food habits
- Smallmouth bass experiment to evaluate removal effectiveness
- Northern pike removal and translocation

Between Craig, Colorado (River Mile 140) and Dinosaur National Monument (River Mile 46) in Colorado

Who: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado

What: Smallmouth bass. Between river miles 124 and 100 (downstream from Craig) there will be one 12-mile treatment reach and one 12-mile control reach. On the first trip, smallmouth bass captured in both reaches will be marked with yellow tags and released back into the river. In the control reach, mark and release will occur during three additional trips. In the treatment reach, smallmouth bass greater than 10 inches in length will be removed during nine additional trips and relocated to Elkhead Reservoir or other approved waters within Colorado to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public. Smallmouth bass less than 10 inches in length will be euthanized. Forty smallmouth bass will be provided to CDOW for a bioenergetics study.

Another treatment reach will be located in Lily Park between river miles 56 and 51 (5 miles upstream from Dinosaur National Monument). On the first trip, smallmouth bass will be marked and released back into the river. On five subsequent trips, smallmouth bass greater than 10 inches in length will be removed and relocated to Elkhead Reservoir. Smallmouth bass less than 10 inches in length will be euthanized.

Northern pike. Within the smallmouth bass treatment and control reaches, northern pike will be marked with yellow tags and released back into the river on the first trip. On subsequent trips, northern pike will be removed and relocated to Yampa State Wildlife Area ponds, Loudy-Simpson pond, or other approved waters within Colorado, to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Channel catfish. Forty catfish will be provided to CDOW for a bioenergetics study.

When: April through August, 2005

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: Colorado Division of Wildlife, Grand Junction, Colorado
Bill Elmblad, 970-255-6187, bill.elmblad@state.co.us

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Warmwater fish bioenergetics study to determine age, growth, and food habits
- Northern pike removal and translocation

Between Dinosaur National Monument (River Mile 46) and the Green River Confluence (RM 0) in Colorado

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah

What: Smallmouth bass and channel catfish. On the first trip, smallmouth bass and channel catfish will be marked with blue tags and released back into the river. On six subsequent trips, bass and catfish will be removed and, because of the remoteness of Yampa Canyon, euthanized, except on the last day of each trip, when captured fish will be transferred to CDOW for stocking into Rio Blanco Reservoir or other approved waters within Colorado to provide additional or continued angling opportunities for the public.

Northern pike. Any northern pike captured will be removed and euthanized.

When: June through September, 2005

Why: See attached questions and answers.

Contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Vernal, Utah
Dave Irving, 435-789-0354, ext. 17, dave_irving@fws.gov

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Other Recovery Program studies/activities within this river section:

- Sediment monitoring
- Humpback chub monitoring/population estimate
- Larval Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker monitoring